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MATTERS RELATED TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL, NON-GOVERNMENTAL, GOVERNMENTAL AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Information on intergovernmental organizations not in the United Nations system

Note by the Director-General

Summary

Provides information on an intergovernmental organization (Arab Maghreb Union (AMU)) that has expressed the wish to enter into an appropriate relationship agreement with UNIDO.

1. Pursuant to paragraph 8 of the guidelines issued by the General Conference in its decision GC.1/Dec.41 regarding relationship agreements, the present document provides in an annex information on the (Arab Maghreb Union (AMU)) which has expressed the wish to enter into an appropriate relationship agreement with UNIDO.

ACTION REQUIRED OF THE BOARD

2. The Board may wish to authorize the Director-General, in accordance with General Conference decision GC.1/Dec.41, annex, paragraph 9, to conclude an appropriate relationship agreement with the (Arab Maghreb Union (AMU)) based on the information contained in the annex to the present document.

For reasons of economy, this document has been printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to meetings.

Annex

ARAB MAGHREB UNION (AMU)

Historical background

Established on 17 February 1989 by five heads of State of the member countries with the signing of the constituting treaty at Marrakesh, Morocco. The treaty came into effect on 1 June 1989.

Purpose

To reinforce relationships between the member States and their peoples in all areas, but specifically to institute free movement of persons, goods, services and capital, and to achieve common policies with regard to economy, industrial development, agriculture, trade and social conditions. Work is under way to institutionalize a Maghreb economic union with the aim of dismantling tariffs, establishing a unified customs area acting as an area of common investments and a common market of the five countries.

Cooperation with UNIDO

Cooperation between AMU and UNIDO began in October 1990 when UNIDO organized a meeting with directors-general of industry of the member countries of AMU with a view to developing industrial cooperation between UNIDO and AMU. That cooperation has continued with a $1.6 million UNDP project on development of industrial integration of the AMU countries that was implemented by UNIDO as well as the organization of several meetings in AMU member countries. Future relations with UNIDO foresee exchange of information on common interests, preparing studies related to industrial issues, hosting meetings and attendance at UNIDO meetings.

Structure

Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs
Presidential Council
General Secretariat
Follow-up Committee
Ministerial Commissions
Consultative Assembly
Legal Office

Membership

Algeria, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia

Activities

Creation of a free market in agricultural, industrial and energy products, joint transport undertakings, including a joint airline, road, motorway and railway improvements, formation of Maghreb unions of textile and leather industries, of industrial sectors, of iron and steel and of capital goods.

Relations with other intergovernmental organizations

Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development

Arab League

African Development Bank

Economic Commission for Africa

European Union

Islamic Development Bank

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (observer)

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